

SENATE BILL NO. 267

INTRODUCED BY B. HAMLETT

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING ELECTRONIC COPIES OF CAMPAIGN ADVERTISEMENTS TO BE FILED WITH THE COMMISSIONER OF POLITICAL PRACTICES AND POSTED ONLINE ~~BEFORE THE MATERIAL IS OFFICIALLY RELEASED; AND CLARIFYING THE RETENTION OF~~ ELECTRONIC COPIES OF CAMPAIGN ADVERTISING RECORDS."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Electronic disclosure of campaign advertisements required -- RETENTION.** (1) A person financing a print, radio, or television advertisement or an advertisement through any other electronic medium in support or opposition to a candidate, political party, initiative, or referendum shall send an electronic copy or transcript of the advertisement to the commissioner of political practices at ~~least 3 business days before~~ THE TIME the advertisement is officially released.

(2) The commissioner of political practices shall make the electronic copies of the campaign advertisements described in subsection (1) available ~~online~~ ON THE COMMISSIONER'S WEBSITE within 2 business days of receiving the material. The material must be organized according to the political campaign or race to which the material applies.

(3) SIXTY DAYS AFTER THE OFFICIAL CANVASS OF THE ELECTION FOR WHICH THE COMMISSIONER POSTED THE ADVERTISEMENTS, THE COMMISSIONER MAY REMOVE THE INFORMATION FROM THE WEBSITE. HOWEVER, THE COMMISSIONER SHALL RETAIN THE INFORMATION AS A PUBLIC RECORD PURSUANT TO 2-6-211.

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 13, chapter 35, part 2, and the provisions of Title 13, chapter 35, part 2, apply to [section 1].

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